



**AUSTRALIA:** Mostly dry, unseasonably warm (temperatures averaging up to 4 degrees C above normal) weather covered winter crop areas of South Australia and Victoria, favoring early crop development. Seasonably low temperatures in New South Wales precluded early spring development. In Queensland, locally heavy rain (exceeding 25 mm) covered the western interior crop areas, but seasonably cool, dry weather continued in the east. Scattered showers (5-25 mm or more) hampered fieldwork in sugarcane areas along the eastern coast. In Western Australia, light to moderate rain (2-20 mm) and seasonable coolness maintained generally favorable growing conditions for winter grains and oilseeds. In New Zealand, cool, mostly dry weather dominated the main agricultural districts, with just a few locations recording more than 10 mm.